

BELL DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT MAGILL

BELL & ELIZABETH MARGARET BIRTCH SURPRISE

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**BELL**

The ancestors and descendants of

ROBERT MAGILL BELL

NOVEMBER 25, 1850 - JUNE 3, 1927

ELIZABETH MARGARET BIRTCH

CA MAY 30, 1857 - AUGUST 9, 1931

Children are listed by letter in order of birth. Grandchildren are numbered in order under parents letter, etc.

Compiling this book has required much cooperation, which has been appreciated.

The author, printer and publisher is Arthur H. Surprise, 5204 Silk Hope Road, Savannah, Georgia - 31405.

Copies available 50 cents each postpaid.

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**Jan. 19, 1971**

## The BELL Family

The family name of Bell has been quite common in northern Ireland. This one has very little Irish background information, but what there is indicates community importance, and craftsmen.

1st generation. William Bell and Jane Kinnon had 11 children. It had been said her maiden name was Baggs, but in papers found a birth certificate stated: 'That Robert Bell, son of William Bell and Jane Kinnon was born 25th November 1850 and baptised 22nd December 1850 is hereby certified. (signed) William Colvin, Minister of Connor. Nov. 21, 1892'', probably a part of naturalization.

This was a family of linen weavers and stone masons.

William Bell, then a widower, moved to Canada, details not known.

2nd gen. Robert Magill Bell, born at Ligoniel, County Antrim (maybe conflict information), crossed the Atlantic more than once before settling down, at 26 plus marrying Elizabeth Margaret Birtch on Aug 9 1877 at North Gower, Ont., 40 miles from Ottawa. She was the daughter of Thomas and Margaret Birtch, was born about May 30 1857, in Canada.

Gift Arthur H. Surprise 7-12-73

2 Among old Bell papers is an old note book with names. Ellen Jane Birtch, sister, presumably never married. Sarah Agnes Birtch Stevenson had one child, Harry, born near 1885, and half-sister Bella Mrs. Thomas McCord, and two half brothers not named.

Robert Bell in Detroit and Toledo had good money connections and built and sold homes quickly and years ahead of the conservative thinking of his time. Past 75 his building-selling acumen was recognized by a sharp northern Ohio banker and almost started a building boom.

In '25 they moved to Oberlin, living with daughter Violet and Leslie Bickel.

Robert died June 3 '27. Elizabeth died Aug 9 '31.

### 3rd generation

#### WILLIAM THOMAS BELL

A- William Thomas Bell born Sept 29 '78 at Toronto, Ont., died at Oberlin May 26 '49, married at Toledo Aug 2 '64 to Genevieve Linden born Apr 4 '86 at Toledo.

William Bell was of the plastering art of long ago, terminated by precasting.

Toledo and Detroit shared his time until

spring '25 when he moved to Oberlin. 3

*1972 - Savannah Ga*  
A-1 Genevieve Elisabeth Bell born Aug 14 '03 at Toledo, starting school there and 8 years at Detroit, and 3 years, graduating from Woodward Tech H S, Toledo, '24, and married at Adrian, Mich. May 18 '25 to Arthur Hugh Surprise born Toledo Apr 17 '05, son of Fred'k John Surprise and Elsie Nora Coudding, gr-son of Zeb Surprise & Matilda Bouche, Quebec, and of William Henry Coudding and Lucinda Taylor, of Darke co. Ohio, publisher of this book and "These are my roots", his family back more than 200 years,

*1972 - Tampa Fla*  
A1-1 Genevieve Elenore Surprise, born May 12 '26 at Oberlin, named for her grandmothers but called Gene, attended school in Ohio, Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina, living with her grands because of war conditions, graduating from Oberlin H S, '44. Married Alphonse Gallo of Brooklyn, veteran, and moved to Alabama for college, div, At Savannah, Oct 10 '52, married Lee Dugger born Baker co., Fla., Sept 19 '22, son of Frank Dugger and Katie Combs, div '60; and married '66 to Perry Hayward, Daytona Beach, Fla., div.

A1-1 David Eugene Dugger, adopted by Lee, born May 23 '50 at Chicago.

A1-2 Doris Martyne (Tina) Dugger,

4 born June 22 '53 at Savannah, in '70, a Junior at Plant H S, Tampa, inducted National Honor Society for scholarship achievement. In Senior year achievement test scored above 470 of possible 498.

A1-2 Betty Lou Surprise born July 5 '28 at Niles, Ohio, names derived from living great grandmothers (Elizabeth Bell, Elizabeth Linden, Lucinda Ccudding) but officially recorded as Betty Lou, married at Fitzgerald, Ga., July 24 '49 to Warren Chandler Jordan born at Fitzgerald Nov 7 '23 died suddenly Aug 27 '68 at Savannah, son of Homer Harvey Jordan born Richmond Co. and Polly Hobby born Irwin Co, gr-son of John D. Jordan and Jane Weathers.

A2-1 through 5 Premature, 4 births.

A2-6 Annette Louise born May 21 '58

A2-7 Mary Margaret born Sept 27 '60

A2-8 Robert Patrick born Mar 27 '67

A2-9 Richard Paul born Aug 14 '65

A-2 William Linden Bell born Jan 5 '17 at Detroit, married Nov 2 '39 at Elyria to Dorothy Emma (Dolly) Rowley born Nov 4 '18, daughter of Harold Rowley and Dorothy Wagner, div Nov '51; 2nd marriage July 27 '61 to Susan (Vickie) Kerr born Sept 4 '15, daughter of George Kerr and Elizabeth (Lil) Greenhill, a cousin of Jan

1972-Fitzgerald Ga.  
Widow

1972 Elyria Ohio

Bell, and Vickie during WW2 was in 5  
the Fire Service at Edinburgh.

A2-1 Richard Dennis Bell born Apr 15  
'42 at Elyria, graduate Findlay College,  
OSU, Kent State, married July 28 '68 at  
Berea to Jacqueline Bish, born Apr 1 '42,  
daughter of Ralph and Louise (stepmoth-  
er) Bish.

A2-2 Timothy Robert Bell Kenska, in  
mother's custody used same name as you-  
nger half-brother, born Oct 27 '50, married  
Jeannette Berman born Elyria July 22 '53

A22-1 Robert Leslie, born Dec 22 '69

A3- John Pershing Bell born Sept 13 '17  
73 Div AU3, WW2, married Mar 1 '41 at  
Elyria to Evabel Golechen.

A3-1 Sharon Sue, form used: Shari Bell  
born May 15 '48, married Dec 19 '70 at  
Los Angeles to Joe Bernhard, son of Mr.  
and Mrs, Sigmund Bernhard.

A-4 Charles Benjamin Bell, born Toledo  
Feb 20 '22, Tech Sgt, 17th AAF, Disting-  
uished Flying Cross with clusters, Purple  
Heart in WW2, married Apr 18 '47 at  
New York to Joan (Jan) Greenhill Douglas  
born July 8 '24 at Edinburgh, Scotland,  
daughter of John Douglas and Ina Green-  
hill, grand-daughter of Robert and Mary  
Douglas and John and Susan Greenhill.

1922 - Los Angeles

6 A4-1 Linda Susan Bell, born  
Dec 7 '49.

A4-2 Michael Douglas, Aug 7 '53

The younger sons have chosen Lcs Angeles as home.

Jan Douglas and cousin Jack Greenhill migrated at about the same time, he to upper Ontario. Then began a trek, Mack (John) and Ina Douglas, then Lil and Vickie Kerr, Jack Greenhill from Canada, and his parents Dave and Jen Greenhill of Scotland succumbed to Florida propaganda. Ina, Lil and Dave are sisters-brother. And cousins Jan and Vickie are sisters-in-law, and mine too!

3rd gen      EMMA JANE BUTLER      7

B- Emma Jane Bell, second child, born Oct 10 '80 as St. Catherines. Ont., died in Colorado May 21 '22, married at Toledo to Robert Butler, abandoned, div. 2nd marriage to Arthur Schumaker.

B-1 William Clement Butler born Jan 22 '99, married Nona ....

B-2 Robert Earl Butler born Toledo Apr 22 '01, married Anna Mae Roitz born Ju'y 28 '04. A Pueblo, Colo., policeman, participated in cases featured in detective magazines.

B2-1 Robert Earl jr., born June 17 '24, married July 14 '47 to Marilyn Ruth Griffith

B21-1 John Spencer, Sept 18 '48

B21-2 Kathleen Ann, Sept 15 '49

B21-3 Robert Arnold, May 30 '53

B21-4 Timothy Allen, Apr 24 '57

B2-2 John Lawrence, born Jan 24 '27, mar. Doris Anita Wittbecker, b Feb 20 '24

B22-1 Patrick Lewis, May 6 '49

B22-2 Michael Lee, Sept 7 '51

B22-3 Barbara Ann, Nov 7 '52

B22-4 John Lawrence jr., Mar 12 '55

B2-3 Clyde Leonard, born Aug 7 '29, married to Mary Arlene Frazzini, born

*Colorado family*

8 May 12 '31.

B23-1 Sandra, born Oct 2 '54

B2-4 Arthur James, born July 15 '32, m

B2-5 Violet Ann, b Feb 27 '34, d infancy

3rd gen. ROBERT BENJAMIN BELL

C- Robert Benjamin Bell born Dec 23 '82 at Richmond, Ont., died at Toledo May 26 '47, married Sept 15 '06 to Myrtle Luella Willard, died Aug 7 '65.

C-1 Robert Benjamin Bell Jr., born Toledo June 29 '07, died at Indianapolis Aug 12 '63, married Betty Alcorn, div.; 2nd marriage to Hazel Dexter born Petersburg, Wisc, Nov 19 '12, div. before WW2; 3rd mar. Ester....

Bob was an Airforce mechanic assigned to heavy cranes at Persian Gulf ports. Later in motor pool in China he drove the last truck off an airfield being evacuated in the last big Jap push, heading his convoy over thrill packed Burma road.

C1-1 Richard Howard, born at Toledo Aug 15 '36, married Sally Jean McIntire, born Nov 16 '38

C11-1 Debra Jean, b. Toledo Feb 14 '60

C11-2 Beth Ann, born Apr 12 '61

C11-3 Joan Marie, born Sept 24 '62

*Possibly Indianapolis, 1972*

C1-2 Donald Robert, born Aug 8 '37 9  
married Esther Huldah Braden born  
Aug 8 '37

C12-1 Charles Dean, born Apr 21 '62

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3rd gen.      LAURA MAY BUTLER

D- Laura May Bell, fourth child and first  
U.S. born at Detroit on July 31 '85, died  
Sept 1936, second wife of Robert Butler.  
Very little is known of them.

*died Jan 22, 1971,*

10 3rd gen. CHARLES HENRY BELL

E- Charles Henry Bell born at Detroit on Dec 14 '87, married at Detroit on Jan 4 '11 to Illa Papworth, born Oberlin Aug 14 '92 daughter of John Papworth [Aug 8 '55 - Oct 8 '40] and Clara Elizabeth Haylor [May 19 '66 - Nov 24 '36], gr-dau George and Mary (2-m) Papworth both of England, and John and Anna Haylor.

In the plastering trade Charles Eell for 8 years worked for George Fike & Son of Sandusky but mostly at Oberlin College, then changing to the College maintenance dept for 30 years, retiring in 1957.

E-1 Russell Haylor Bell, born Feb 5 '17, married at Willard O. Aug 6 '48 to Elaire Spencer born Oct 1 '25, daughter of Glen and Ethel Spencer.

E1-1 Christy Lou, born Dec 25 '53

E-2 Kenneth Henry, born May 23 '19, married Aug 20 '38 to Mary Ann Spaulding, a lp daughter of Carl and Buelah Spaulding.

E2-1 Susan Ann born Aug 20 '39, married May 4 '68 to Dan Franco, Cleveland

E21-X Adopting 4 children

E2-2 Sa dra, June 10 '45-Mar 26 '63

E-3 Hazel June, Mar 11 '24-Apr 22 '26

*1972- Oberlin, O.*

3rd gen. VIOLET MARGARET BICKEL 11

F- Violet Margaret Bell was born at Toledo Apr 15 '99, although considerable of her youth was spent in Detroit; married at Elyria Jan 31 '23 to Leslie Ray Bickel, born Oct 29 '99, son of Henry K. Bickel died '04, and of Mary Blackert born Freiburg Germany, 2nd m William Hockstetler. Children were Joseph Matthew b '98, Conrad '94-'17, and Albert Henry b '97. Leslie Bickel and Harold Ivan Hockstetler. While the Blackert family was aboard a sailing ship bound to America they were becalmed and in the second month out a leaking hull finally forced all to bail the water. Before leaving home Mary objected crossing any ocean wider than the Rhine.

Les was first a plasterer, changed and after 20 in the C. A. Olson furnace shops in Elyria, retiring in 1965.

F-1 Raymond Conrad Bickel born Toledo Dec 10 '24, married at Oberlin June 22 '51 to Virginia Belle Hurst born Jan 23 '24, daughter of Morris Lynn Hurst and Enna Elms, gr-dau of Melvin Hurst and Mary Jane Beecher, and Charles Elms & Georgia Stark.

F1-1 Barbara Rae, June 30 '54.

1972 Oberlin, O.

12 F1-2 David Leslie, born July 16 '58

1972

Cleve  
Bud

F-2 Lewis Matthew, born Jan 3 '27,  
married Cleveland Apr 4 '53 to Dorothy  
Doebele, dau Albert Doebele.

F2-1 Norman Lewis, born Apr 17 '54

F2-2 Edward Albert, born May 14 '57

1972

L'vle

Ky.

F-3 Howard Leslie, born Feb 25 '28,  
married Louisville to Margaret Covington  
Lora Louisville, Ky., Mar 17 '....

F3-1 Jacqueline Ann, born Mar 18 '55

F-4 Marian Elizabeth, born Aug 2 '33,  
married Oct 8 '56 to Herbert Allen Chase  
born near Washington, Pa. Aug 25 '33,

1972

Sheehan

O

son of Charles Edward Chase and Fuch  
Mary Reiner. gr-son of Frederick Frank-  
lin and Elizabeth Casandra Chase, and  
of Lawrence Edward Reihner and Sally  
Cook Bane.

F4-1 Deborah Sue Chase born Jan 24 '58

F4-2 Linda Jean, Mar 24 '59.

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